HABS No. CA-2658-J

Winehaven, Winemaster's House (Bldg. No. 60)
Point Molate Naval Fuel Depot
Richmond
Contra Costa County
California

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PHOTOGRAPHS

Historic American Buildings Survey
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

WINEHAVEN, WINEMASTER'S HOUSE

(BUILDING 60)

HABS No. CA-2658-J

Location: Point Molate Naval Fuel Depot. Point Molate. Richmond. Contra Costa County. California

Significance: Building 60 is a representative example of one of four building types found at Winehaven. Winehaven was listed in the National Register of Historic Places, with 35 contributing buildings. Winehaven represents the remains of a company town, including industrial, residential, and support buildings, built by the California Wine Association between 1907 and 1919. Of these, 29 buildings are residences, comprising four essential types. Building 58 is a good example of one type, called the "Elongated Three Bedroom Plan" in the general HABS documentation for Winehaven.

Description: The Winemaster's House. Building 60, was apparently one of the earliest residential buildings of the Winehaven operation. The building did not exist in 1909 but may be seen in a 1910 photograph. It is therefore concluded the building was constructed around 1910. It is a two-story, woodframe residence. It is stylistically quite distinct from the cottages at Winehaven. The building features a pedimented side gabled roof with pedimented dormers at the front and rear. It also includes a flat-roofed service wing to the right of the facade. That service wing was in place in 1916 and is presumed to be original to the building. The building is sided in stucco, placed over the original wooden shingle siding. The building is a L-shaped, formed by the rectangular two-story element and the one-story service wing. The second story is only about two thirds as large as the first, owing to the slope of the gabled roof in the area not included within the dormers.

Windows in the building mimic the pattern and vocabulary of the cottages. There are four major window types. The first is a 1/1 double-hung wooden sash, found on both stories. The second is a paired 1/1 double-hung wooden sash, also found on both stories. The third is a paired 3/1 double-hung wooden sash. This window, the most common window type in the Winehaven residential area, is found only at the second story. The fourth is a three-sided bay window, found only on the west elevation of the first story. The bay includes 1/1 double-hung wooden sash on the sides and paired 1/1 double-hung sash in the center. There is also a single aluminum sliding sash on the east wall of the enclosed porch.

Among its many exceptional characteristics. Building 60 is the only cottage to retain any trace of the original wooden shingle siding. The siding still exists on the front porch area, on the inside of the exterior porch walls as well as the main wall of the house, i.e. the exterior wall of the building facing the porch area. There are also traces of the original shingles at the base of the exterior walls, just above the foundation.

Building 60 retains a high degree of integrity of interior features. These interior features are the more notable because of the quality of craftsmanship; built as the home for the manager of the facility. Building 60 was endowed with more interesting and expensive interior furnishing from the outset. Many of these still exist, particularly in the common areas on the first story.

The first and second story room arrangement for Building 60 are shown in the floor plans on the attached Architectural Data Form for this building. The first story includes a living room, dining room, kitchen, rear service porch, bath, and bedroom/study, in addition to the enclosed front porch. The most notable interior features are in the living and dining areas. These room include hardwood floor which appear to be original and in an excellent state of repair. The dining room includes a built-in China hutch. The windows for the China hutch are in a Craftsman pattern that is repeated in the interior doorways.

Building 60 retains a remarkably high degree of integrity. Modifications to it include: installation of stucco over the original shingle siding: enclosure of the open front porch; installation of an aluminum canopy at the side service entry; and installation of an aluminum sliding window within the enclosed porch (a second-generation modification).

Historical Context: The entire Winehaven complex was built between 1907 and 1917, with the industrial buildings being generally older than the residences. The exact dates of construction cannot be established for individual residences, although it is clear that the cottages were built in stages. Building 60 is one of the oldest of the group, known to have existed in 1910.

Building 60 has a special place in the residential compound from both the historical and architectural standpoints. Historically, it was the home of the winemaster, the general manager of this substantial operation. Architecturally, the home is quite distinct from the 28 smaller cottages in the area. It is a two-story, predominantly Colonial Revival home, contrasting with the small one-story, predominantly Craftsman cottages. Building 60's interior, however, is highly influenced by Craftsman design, including Craftsman doors and built-in features.

Building 60 was likely occupied almost exactly one decade, between 1909 and 1919, before the Winehaven operation shut down. It was vacant for more than a decade before being reused as the residence for the commanding officer of the Navy Fuel Depot in 1942.

Sources:

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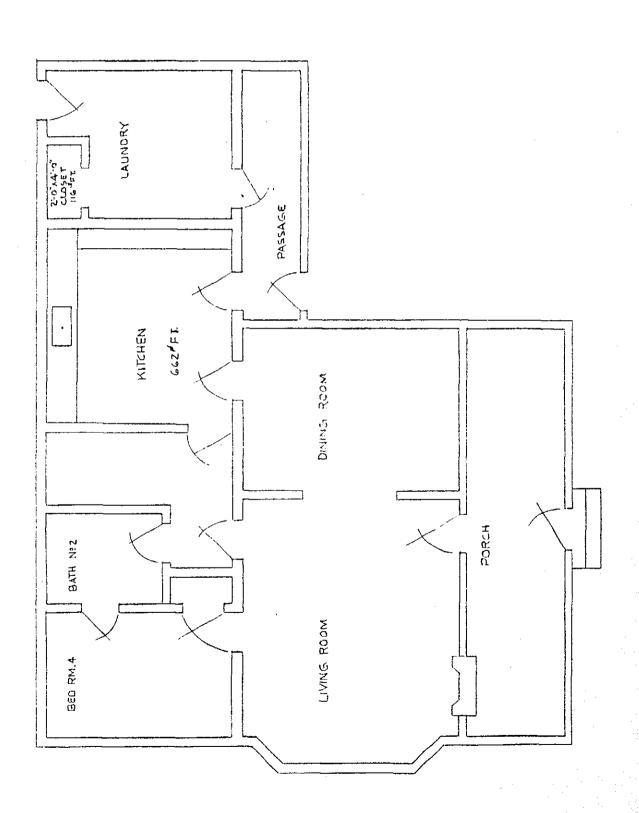
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U.S. Navy, "Map of Naval Fuel Depot. San Francisco Bay Area, Molate Point, Richmond, California, Twelfth Naval District," June 30, 1944.

U.S. Navy, "Map of Naval Fuel Depot. San Francisco Bay Area, Molate Point, Richmond, California, Twelfth Naval District." June 30, 1949 and June 30, 1960.

Project Information: The Naval Fuel Depot, Point Molate, was identified for closure under the recommendations of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission, along with the Oakland Fleet Industrial Supply Center, which administers the Point Molate Facility. The ultimate disposition of the buildings at the Point Molate facility is unknown at this time. The U.S. Navy is currently negotiating with the City of Richmond regarding transfer of the land and buildings at Point Molate. The U.S. Navy has initiated Section 106 consultation regarding this property and is developing a plan for disposal and reuse of the Depot, including the Winehaven buildings.



Scale: 1 inch = 5 feet

BUILDING 60: 1st floor

Scale: 1 inch = 5 feet

BUILDING 60: 2nd floor